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(54) **Monitoring and adjusting laser write power in an optical data recorder**

(57) A write-once optical disk data recorder automatically calibrates a laser during a write data operation and using write pulses focussed to a disk. First, the laser is calibrated using a non-focussed laser beam. Each sector of the disk has a laser checking or test area, such as an automatic laser power correction field (ALPC) of two byte lineal extent. During a first write operation after a power up or disk load, a pulse width modulated (PWM) laser test signal is recorded using a laser power level set using the non-focussed laser beam and an indicated desired recording power level on the disk. The recorded laser test signal is read back. The length of the read back laser test signal is measured. The measured length is then compared with a desired length of the PWM laser test signal that indicates a desired laser power level. That is, as laser recording power levels increase, a resultant recorded signal grows in size. This property is used to measure laser power for calibrating laser operation.

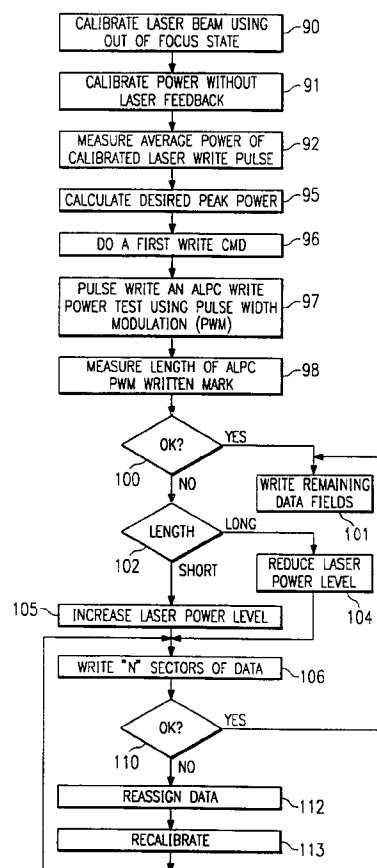


FIG. 8

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 95 30 3612

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
Y	EP-A-0 453 161 (SEIKO EPSON CORP) 23 October 1991 * column 1, line 1 - line 4 * * column 3, line 18 - line 28; figures 1, 15 * * column 4, line 49 - column 5, line 3 * * column 7, line 52 - line 58 * * column 8, line 19-28 * * column 9, line 21 - line 40; figure 16 * * figure 18 *	1,2,4,5, 7-11,13, 14	G11B7/00 G11B7/125
A	---	3,6,12	
Y	EP-A-0 393 001 (IBM) 17 October 1990 * column 5, line 11 - line 30 * * column 6, line 15 - column 7, line 6 * * column 8, line 51 - line 58; figure 2 * * column 13, line 7 - line 13 * * column 6, line 20 - line 25; figure 1 * * column 6, line 33 - line 47 * * column 10, line 30 - line 45; figure 3 * * column 13, line 50 - column 14, line 8 * * column 10, line 30 - line 45; figure 3 * * column 13, line 50 - column 14, line 8 *	1,2,4, 7-11,13, 14	
A	---	3,6,12	
Y		5,9,13	
Y		14	
A		15	
Y	US-A-4 631 713 (ROMEAS RENE ET AL) 23 December 1986 * the whole document *	1,2,4,8, 10,11	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search MUNICH		Date of completion of the search 28 May 1996	Examiner Poth, H
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	

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